

SAIONJI-HARADA MEMOIRS

Chapter 100 (9 October 1933)

On the 4, - - - - I met Foreign Minister Hirota, he stated:  
"I desire to hear the opinions of the Army and Navy from an official standpoint through the War and Navy Ministers. - - - - Both the Army and the Navy authorities, especially those of the Navy, fear that the circumstances will inevitably reach their worst in 1936. Such being the case, our present task is to determine how to avoid this crisis. There is no alternative but to meet this problem by diplomacy. - - - - My opinion is that since we feel, as the result of the Manchurian affair, the effects of international reactions, it is necessary to conduct our response to those effects peacefully. First of all we must improve public opinion so as to deal with the Japanese-American problem peacefully. We must set up a basis for this atmosphere. By hearing both Ministers' (War and Navy) intentions and also by speaking to the Finance Minister, I want to exert my efforts to get an agreement between us on this problem. The views of the Finance Minister and myself are in complete agreement."

西園寺原田日記百回

八年十月九日

四日―――廣田外務大臣に會つた處―――陸海軍の先づその立場からの  
各大臣の意向を聞きたい、―――で陸海軍とも―――殊に海軍は最悪の場  
合のみを考へて居るやうだが、如何にせば然らば其最悪の場合を來  
ないやうにすることが出来るか即ち夫が外交に依つてやるより途が  
ないのである。―――  
自分は滿洲問題の結果即ち國際的に反動を動した其影響を受けるの  
であるから之を靜穩に導くことが必要であつて先づ對米問題は民間  
の空氣をよくして行きたいと思ふ其下地を造らねばならない。まあ  
自分も出来るだけ一つ兩大臣の意向も聞き大藏大臣にも話し充分一  
つ努力して見たい。で大藏大臣とは全然意見が一致して居る